

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF REGISTRATION
IN PHARMACY

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT.

Boston, Oct. 1, 1896.

To the Honorable ROGER WOLCOTT,
Acting Governor of the Commonwealth.

SIR:—In submitting to your Honor this, the eleventh annual report, from the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, we present briefly such facts and data as will exhibit the work of the Board. If fuller details are desired they will be furnished from the records of the office.

The efforts made by the Board in 1895 to carry out the intent and purpose of the law of 1894, relating to the granting of liquor certificates to druggists, the suggestions and requests in our last report for such changes in the law as would make the intent and purpose more definite and effective, caused much discussion by the press and the Legislature from January to May, 1896. In view of the very general depression of business, the misunderstanding and at times malicious misrepresentation of the efforts of the Board were most unfortunate, and may prove in their results a loss rather than a gain to reputable pharmacy. While there has been progress in the educational and skilful conduct of drug stores as a class, and every city and many towns have what may be considered a strictly reputable and absolutely reliable pharmacy, there are also many so-called drug stores that are unreliable, hazardous, a source of much that is evil, demoralizing, and a menace in any community. Many stores of this class were, and some are now, owned and controlled by ex-saloon keepers and others who employ a registered pharmacist who has an interest on paper only, or at best a nominal investment, thereby largely increasing the number of drug stores beyond any legitimate demand, and in too many cases forcing a resort to illegitimate pharmacy.

The sale of domestic and proprietary medicines, harmless, useless and poisonous, by grocers, dry goods, fancy goods, department and other stores, is also a hindrance, as they are allowed to dispose of their goods, poisonous and otherwise, without the restraint imposed upon a registered pharmacist. These conditions are formidable and serious and prevent the progress of reliable pharmacy and the protection of the public. The dispensing of drugs, medicines, chemicals, pharmaceutical preparations and very many of the so-called domestic remedies, outside of drug stores, simply and heedlessly as they would sell a paper of pins or a roll of tape, may be a convenience, but is of necessity a hazard to the people, a wrong to the educated pharmacist, a fraud upon honorable responsible and protecting lines of public service, and oftentimes a serious injury as well as a loss of time and money to the unsuspecting purchaser, who is led to believe a pill is a pill, a medicine of any kind is the best of its kind and exactly what is required. If it were possible to confine the sale of drugs, medicines, chemicals and poisons entirely to the registered pharmacist, as in some countries and several of the States, prohibiting the peddling from house to house and the indiscriminate vending of the worse than useless nostrums, a great public good would be accomplished, and progress in pharmacy would rapidly assume a higher plane of safety and service. During the past ten years there have been such changes in the art of manufacturing and dispensing, in methods of administration of medicines and in surgical appliances, that the reputable family drug store is required to carry a much larger and more varied stock than ever before. To meet the demands for the many new and constantly increasing developments of science and pharmacy requires closer attention and a much higher grade of pharmaceutical intelligence and skill, that errors may be avoided by the detection and rejection of remedies made worthless by time, exposure or chemical change, involving a larger investment, very much smaller margins and a greatly increased expense account.

During the year closing Oct. 1, 1896, 42 meetings of the Board have been held, for the examination of 575 applicants for certificates of registration in pharmacy, as follows : —

EXAMINATIONS.

					Examined.	Registered.	Refused.
1895.							
Oct.	1-3,	.	.	.	36	3	33
Nov.	12-14,	.	.	.	44	8	36
1896.							
Jan.	7-9,	.	.	.	41	11	30
Jan.	21-23,	.	.	.	39	5	34
Feb.	12-14,	.	.	.	41	14	27
March	3-5,	.	.	.	41	10	31
March	17-19,	.	.	.	41	6	35
March 31, April 1, 2,	46	10	36
April	14-16,	.	.	.	45	8	37
May	5-7,	.	.	.	42	8	34
May	26-28,	.	.	.	40	5	35
June	9-11,	.	.	.	40	7	33
June	23-25,	.	.	.	46	13	33
Sept.	8-10,	.	.	.	33	2	31
Totals,					575	110	465

During the year, of the 110 who received certificates, —

18 passed on the 1st examination.

10	"	"	2d	"
28	"	"	3d	"
22	"	"	4th	"
12	"	"	5th	"
6	"	"	6th	"
3	"	"	7th	"
3	"	"	8th	"
1	"	"	9th	"
1	"	"	10th	"
2	"	"	11th	"
2	"	"	13th	"
2	"	"	14th	"

As exhibiting the reason of so few passing the Board, we present the age and rating of 5 applicants. We require 200 out of a possible 300 : —

1. Age, 23; oral, 40; written, 23; drugs, 45; total, 108.
2. " 37; " 40; " 42½; " 25; " 107½.
3. " 35; " 40; " 36; " 40; " 116.
4. " 35; " 00; " 16½; " 15; " 31½.
5. " 20; " 40; " 32; " 15; " 87.

As compared with the above, we give a rating made at this same examination, —

Oral, 70; written, 78; drugs, 80; total, 228,

plainly showing how many, totally unprepared, would, if permitted, open drug stores.

That pharmacy is still considered by many applicants for registration simply a business of buying and selling drugs, attended by no personal obligation or hazard, requiring little if any study or practical experience, is clearly shown by the following answers, made to simple questions, which are given verbatim: —

“Blue Mass is made with conserve of roses and mild chloride of mercury.”

“Hydrarg. cum Cretae is mild chloride of mercury and chalk,” and not until the applicant was shown the United States Pharmacopœia would he admit his error.

“The official drug obtained from the hog is lard, and is done by heating the abdomen.”

“Cocaine is from the same tree we get Ol. Theobroma from.”

“Lactic acid is from lemons and limes.” Reflecting a moment, said, “I think it is an animal acid; don’t know what animal.”

One applicant, twenty-four years old, claiming four and one-half years of experience, received a rating of $58\frac{1}{2}$ out of a possible 300, calling aromatic spirits of ammonia “hair oil,” and Dover’s powder “pipe clay.”

“Ejusdem means infusion.”

“Camphor gum is obtained by distilling the oil which runs from the camphor tree,” and “opium by distilling poppy heads.”

“Cocaine, cocoa butter and cocoanut oil, all come from the seed of the same plant.”

“Oleic acid is something from the animal kingdom.” Could not explain the difference between analysis and synthesis.

“Jalap is an oleo resin.”

“Forty per cent. of ipecac in Dovers powder.”

“Twenty to thirty per cent. of quinine in cinchona bark.”

“Picra is used in coffee.” “Thirty per cent. of opium in laudanum.”

“To get one grain of opium, give fifteen drops or twenty minims of laudanum.” “Aloes are a gum and can be picked from trees.” This man had been engaged by a saloon keeper to open a drug store if he passed the Board and got a certificate.

“Spermaceti, white wax and parafine come from petrolatum.” Could not tell the source of yellow wax.

“Galls are a fruit like nuts.”

“Forty drops of alcohol in a fluid drachm.”

“Sudorifics sooth the parts applied to.”

“Croton oil is a volatile oil by destructive distillation.”

“Galla is obtained from galls by distillation.”

“One drachm of paregoric contains one grain of opium.”

“Petrolatum is drawn from wells like water, with buckets.”

“Bi means half; proto, six times as much as bi; sub means half.”

“Nut galls are argols, a fruit from plants; both the same thing and from the same tree.”

“Sulphur lotum is made by action of iodine on sulphur.”

“Aloes are from the seed of a plant.” This candidate had not the slightest knowledge of mathematics, it being utterly impossible for him to figure the strength of any preparation.

“Nut galls are a secretion from some animal, don’t know what animal.”

One who had been before the Board ten times, and had not obtained a certificate, writes, as the difference between sugar of lead, white lead and litharge: “Sugar of lead comes in crystals and is used in pharmacy; white lead is used more to paint your house and barn with; litharge is a by product obtained in the manufacture of soap and glycerine.”

“Pro in pharmacy means fourth combination.”

“A soporific is anything that will make soap.”

Financial Statement.

Oct. 1, 1895, amount in hands of State Treasurer, . . .	\$230 15
Received during the year from applications, . . .	\$2,081 00
Received during the year from duplicate certificates, . . .	6 00
	<hr/> 2,087 00
Total for the year,	\$2,317 15

Drafts for the year have been made as follows:—

	Services.	Expenses.	
H. M. Whitney,	\$187 50	\$97 91	
F. H. Butler, secretary,	557 50	210 50	
John Larrabee,	205 00	43 81	
A. K. Tilden,	62 50	4 00	
John A. Rice,	195 00	230 36	
	<hr/> \$1,207 50	<hr/> \$586 58	
		<hr/> \$1,794 08	
Vox Populi Press, printing questions, . . .	\$12 75		
Dunton & Potter, printing questions, . . .	8 00		
J. L. Fairbanks & Co., stamped envelopes, etc.,		27 80	
M. P. Bihler, monitor and clerical work, . .		111 00	
F. H. Butler & Co.,		31 33	
C. F. Hatch, rolls for certificates, . . .		2 00	
Wright & Potter Printing Company, stamped envelopes and printing, . . .		20 52	
		<hr/> 213 40	
Balance,		309 67	
		<hr/> \$2,317 15	
Cash in hands of State Treasurer,			\$309 67

Liabilities.

Examinations not made,	\$246 00
Engrossing certificates (estimated),	10 00
	<hr/> 256 00
Leaving a balance of	\$53 67

DEPARTMENT FOR ENFORCING THE PHARMACY LAW.

The administration of this branch of our work during the year has been extremely difficult, requiring thorough and careful investigation, as the complainants in several instances were reputable and law-abiding pharmacists of long experience, having at large expense themselves complied with the law by employing one or more registered assistants, who were forced to compete with new stores conducted with only

one registered pharmacist, and that one absent too long a time and too often. In many complaints of this character it was found the store complained of was opened with the full purpose of doing a liquor business, and the failure to obtain a liquor certificate, or, if obtained, the comparatively small amount of liquor that can be legally sold, induced a general neglect of the business and consequent lack of personal attention also required by law.

By persistent efforts it is hoped this class of drug stores will in time be closed; but the difficulties named on page 13 of our tenth annual report, and which we tried to have corrected by the proposed legislation, still exist, and until corrected will prevent rapid progress.

During the year twenty-two formal complaints have been made by our agent for the action of the Board, thirty-eight complaints in writing have been received and many verbal complaints have been made at the office, most of which were of sufficient importance to investigate. In the summary of the agent's report will be found several cases of interest, to which special attention is called.

In connection with this department of our work (enforcing the pharmacy law) fifteen special meetings have been held by the full Board, and four certificates of registration in pharmacy revoked altogether; two were suspended for six months each, one for nine months, one for twelve months and one placed on file with reprimand.

In one of the above cases of revocation action was delayed for sixty days by special request, as it was claimed the imprisonment of ninety days had been of such corrective influence and service that reformation was absolute and the man could be saved; but the habit of selling and drinking was too strong, and the Board were forced to apply the full penalty of absolute revocation.

We have remaining on file, awaiting developments, the following cases:—

A man and his wife, both registered as required under the law of 1885. At their trial in the police court they both promised their certificates of registration in pharmacy should not be used again, and the cases were placed on file. They refused to give up the certificates.

Two cases that were fined one hundred dollars each in the lower court, but failed of conviction in the superior court.

One case that failed of conviction in the lower court.

One case where the defendant pleaded guilty to the charge, but, owing to a technical point of law, was discharged.

One case where the defendant has left the State.

One case depending upon the conviction of above.

Five cases awaiting action of courts and the Board.

Financial Statement from Oct. 1, 1895, to Oct. 1, 1896.

Services of the Board, including daily attendance and records of the office,	\$460 00
Expenses of the Board,	124 03
Special duties of the president,	150 00
Miscellaneous,	33 33
Clerical and stenographic services,	164 00
S. B. Harris, agent, services, \$560, expense, \$333.30,	893 30
Total,	<u>\$1,824 66</u>
Vouchers in detail at Auditor's office.	

LIQUOR CERTIFICATE DEPARTMENT.

The law requires the Board to issue a certificate by which a registered pharmacist may obtain a sixth-class license, provided the Board can say he is a proper person and the public good will be promoted. In some cases where the liquor certificate has been granted and a license to sell intoxicating liquor secured gross and flagrant violations of the law followed. To secure a conviction in court for such offences is not a part of our work, and we appreciate fully the difficulties under which local officials labor in securing such evidence as will convict. To meet this condition it was proposed last year that the Board should have authority, after an investigation and proper hearing, to revoke the liquor certificate, which would also revoke the sixth-class license, and in this way enforce a rigid observance of the provisions of the license. It was not proposed nor suggested that the revoking of the liquor certificate should affect the certificate of registration as a pharmacist, but it was made to appear that such was the purpose of the Board. It was also represented that re-registration once in two years meant re-examination, when, in fact, it meant simply a *renewal* of certificates; and the advantages of a biennial renewal must be apparent to all who have any interest in the progress of pharmacy.

That the Board was established for the elevation and protection of reputable pharmacy, the protection of the people from incompetent and reckless dispensers, and that such has been the purpose and effort of the Board, are recognized facts.

In response to the popular demand of the people, that some of the most disturbing conditions which have brought discredit to the pharmacist, a detriment to the cause of temperance and morals, should be corrected, power was given the Board to enforce the pharmacy law and to have also a limited control of the liquor selling in drug stores. The Board are in no sense seeking police duties; but if, in addition to the original work placed upon them, the Legislature year by year adds to their duties, and if they are expected to regulate and control the sale of intoxicating liquor in drug stores, is it not wise that the laws should be made more effective? We have reason to believe that in some instances, where we have refused the desired certificate, liquor is sold, sometimes with great care and judgment, sometimes without care and in direct violation of law. This condition exists in some localities where no sixth-class licenses are granted, the officials evidently preferring to take the chances of *no* license rather than refuse one or more of a doubtful character or reputation. In such localities there can always be found those who feel they will be protected by the officials, as they use great care and discretion and are willing to take the chances, others who are not willing to take any chances, and still others who strive to make sales enough to cover the risk. In several no-license places, where these conditions exist, we have had many serious complaints, and it is almost impossible to correct the evil, as we are made to appear as antagonizing the officials if we take any action.

Liquor Certificates to Druggists.

Applications received from Oct. 1, 1895, to Dec. 1, 1895, to expire May 1, 1896,	43
Applications received from Jan. 1, 1896, to Feb. 28, 1896, to expire May 1, 1896,	19
	<hr/>
Granted,	44
Refused,	18
	62

Applications received from March 1, 1896, to Oct. 1, 1896, to expire May 1, 1897,	1,158
Granted,	1,020
Refused,	138
Total number of applications for the year,	1,220
Total number of certificates granted,	1,064
Total number of certificates refused,	156

Since our last report a complete canvass of the city of Boston has been made and every drug store visited by our agent. A similar canvass is now being made by him of all the towns and cities of the Commonwealth.

During the year we refused about one hundred or more applications for certificates to persons who had failed to comply with the law in making legal entry and proper record of sales; but, upon receiving a written promise for the future that all sales should be recorded and a strict conformity to the law maintained, nearly all were granted certificates.

From such data as the Board have been able to gather, the sale of intoxicating liquors in the drug stores of the Commonwealth has during the past year been reduced not less than two-thirds, as an average, and in some localities a greater reduction has been made. The work has been attended with some friction and open hostility, but we know our efforts have met with the hearty approval of reputable pharmacists and the endorsement of the law-abiding people of the State.

Fifty sessions of the Board have been held for the purpose of passing upon applications, and impartial hearings have been given in every case where the justice of a refusal has been questioned. In several cases where the reputation of the drug store has been notoriously bad, and in others where the opening of a new store indicated a probable liquor business, we have required some assurance, either by delay in granting, that a record might be made, or satisfied by facts, that our action in certifying to "proper person and public good" had some data to stand upon.

In one city, if not more, where the officials, it is claimed, do not enforce or even make an attempt to check the violation of law in the sale of liquor by druggists, individuals or

an organized body have employed detectives or spotters from outside the State, and sworn testimony has been given of a most reckless and demoralizing condition.

Earnest appeals are made to the Board for aid and assistance in work of this kind, and the statements of facts are so strongly and forcibly presented that we are compelled to admit the probable validity of the charges; but we have never felt that it was, under the law, our duty to attempt detective or special police work, and certainly we have no such desire. We must admit, however, that there are existing conditions in several cities and towns where, by the abuse of the sixth-class license, the sale of intoxicating liquor is such an injury to the public that any proper means would be justifiable in an effort to stop it. Reputable, law-abiding pharmacists are suffering seriously by the acts and conduct of such stores, and progress in pharmacy under such conditions can hardly be expected. Can relief be given?

Financial Statement from Oct. 1, 1895, to Oct. 1, 1896.

Services of the Board, including daily attendance and records

of the office,	\$1,565 00
Special duties of the president,	600 00
Expenses of the Board,	436 24
Miscellaneous,	182 27
Clerical and stenographic,	480 00
S. B. Harris, agent, services, \$742 50, expenses, \$486.59, . .	1,229 09
Total,	<u>\$4,492 60</u>

Vouchers in detail at Auditor's office.

Received for liquor certificates,	\$1,262 00
Returned to rejected applicants,	\$198 00
Paid to State Treasurer,	1,064 00
Total,	<u>\$1,262 00</u>

CONCLUSION.

In no way can a clearer and more definite statement or illustration be presented of our work and its results than will be found by a review of our several annual reports.

The examination department, for which the Board was originally established, has never been an expense to the State, but has been conducted by personal sacrifice of each

member, his bills being made, not for full time of services rendered, but to come within the fees received after paying all other expenses, such as printing, postage, etc. The secretary of the Board, in the performance of his duties, is obliged to give many days' service in correspondence, records and preparation for this department, in addition to the days of examination.

The enforcement of the pharmacy law, the granting of liquor certificates and the administration of the poison law have been placed under the special supervision of the Board. To keep an accurate rating of about two thousand drug stores, to investigate all complaints, prepare and arrange all the applications for the liquor certificates (which, on account of changes, come in every week during the year), the general charge of all duties excepting the examinations, require daily attendance at the office, and have been made the duty of the president of the Board.

It is again suggested that the several departments of our work, the granting of certificates for registration in pharmacy, enforcing the pharmacy and poison laws and the granting of liquor certificates, be merged in one account, and an annual appropriation be made, covering all.

If these varied duties are to continue, the work should be well done, and with the appropriations as now made it is an impossibility. More prompt and rigid investigation should be made, by the permanent employment of an agent whose whole time should be given to the work. The members of the Board should receive such just compensation as the duties and responsibilities demand, and devote as much time in an exhaustive investigation as may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. WHITNEY.
F. H. BUTLER.
A. K. TILDEN.
JOHN LARRABEE.
JOHN A. RICE.

AGENT'S REPORT.

Boston, Oct. 1, 1896.

To the Board of Registration in Pharmacy.

GENTLEMEN:—In presenting to you my annual report, it seems that a lengthy account of the work performed under your orders is unnecessary, as monthly reports have been made to you, giving all the important details during the past year.

The work performed under instructions of the Board has taken me to every portion of the Commonwealth and to some cities and towns several times, so that I have had an opportunity to observe whether our labor has been in vain or some good has resulted, and I am happy to state that a marked improvement has been made in the right direction. During this year not so many complaints have been made of criminal violation of the pharmacy law as were made during the year 1895, nor as many complaints to the Board during the year just closed as were made the year previous. A comparison of the statistics of 1895 with the statistics of 1896 bears out this statement; and, as the impostor and bogus druggist are driven out of the pharmacy business, so will the profession take a higher standing in the community. In several instances violations of the pharmacy law have been corrected by simply calling them to the attention of the druggist, who rectified them at once. This has always been more desirable than to resort to prosecutions, which have only followed in cases of flagrant violations, where forbearance had ceased to be a virtue. One thing has become apparent, — the back room is no longer a loafing place for those who have not quite the courage to stand up to a bar and “take it straight.” Another noticeable feature is that the quantity of spirituous liquor bought at wholesale has greatly dimin-

ished, and the legitimate pharmacist sees respectability returning. But there is work to be performed on the part of the druggists of Massachusetts in order that the ideal standard may be obtained; and by their co-operation with the Board of Pharmacy, assisted by the local authorities, their expectations will be realized.

I might state the work accomplished, giving particulars of various prosecutions, time taken up in attending court, etc.; but the details have all been laid before you, the results are set forth in the recapitulation, and results are of more interest to the public and ourselves than much writing or speaking.

Many stories might be told of the various ways and means taken to evade the law by those who have no conception of legitimate pharmacy, — of grocers, stable keepers, saloon keepers, milkmen and others who heretofore embarked in the drug business without any pharmaceutical qualifications whatever. But the charms for them are gradually disappearing, and drug stores operated in Massachusetts without being under the supervision of registered pharmacists have become a thing of the past.

In order to give the public and pharmacists an idea of the qualifications of some pretended druggists, who only serve to degrade the profession, having opened so-called drug stores prior to the enactment of the law of 1893, which made it a criminal offence to expose drugs, medicines, chemicals and poisons without being under the supervision of a registered pharmacist, and who by various devices have tried to maintain the same without conforming to the law, until by repeated prosecution they were forced to abandon the business, the following may be interesting.

In the city of —, a man by the name of — first made his appearance in the police court charged with having in his possession milk not up to the standard. He was a milkman. Presently he opened a drug store and commenced business. Complaints came to the police department and to the Board of Pharmacy, setting forth that this store was a rum shop; prosecutions followed; charges of violating the liquor law were preferred. Upon inspecting the premises, the agent found displayed a certificate of registration belonging to a registered pharmacist who owned and supervised a drug store

located in another town. A criminal complaint was made against Mr. —, charging him with unlawfully keeping and exposing for sale drugs, medicines, etc., and he was arrested. In the mean time a formal complaint was made to the Board of Pharmacy against the owner of the certificate of registration. He was summoned before the Board and dealt with accordingly; but the former milkman kept his store open without any registered person connected therewith, and claimed the right to do so by displaying a placard, printed in large type, “*No drugs or medicine sold here.*” However, this attempt at evasion of the law did not protect the offender. The officers of the law still had an eye on his place. Another prosecution followed, and a short time ago the milkman gave up the pharmacy business, which had become very uncongenial, and embarked in horse trading.

Perhaps it would not be amiss to narrate the experiences of one or two so-called druggists, giving a report of the manner in which they have conducted their business, together with their records and the sudden termination of their careers. Names and places are omitted, but all statements made may be verified by the records at the office of the Board of Registration in Pharmacy.

In January, 1896, a variety show was billed to give performances in the town of — for one week. Upon the opening night the manager, in company with one of the *attachés*, started for the hall. On the way the manager stepped into the drug store of Mr. — to leave some hand bills. As the manager was leaving the store the druggist said, “Won’t you have something to take?” The reply was, “I am not drinking now.” But the druggist said, “I have something here that won’t hurt you; have some.” Thereupon a hot drink was prepared for the manager, who drank the beverage. When the curtain arose the manager had not arrived. He, however, appeared later upon the scene of action, but his condition was such that a quarrel ensued, the outcome of which was sufficient to disband the organization. The manager drifted back to the drug store and disappeared from view until about eleven o’clock the following forenoon. After appearing for a short time at the hotel where the troupe had engaged rooms, he vanished again within the alluring precincts of the drug store, and

nothing was heard of him until about midnight, when a boy messenger from the store called upon the landlady of the hotel, informing her that "The man who belongs to that troupe is unconscious in the back room of our drug store, and we cannot arouse him." The landlady put on her outside garments and hastened to Mr. —, who is clerk of the district court, and informed him in regard to the matter. The clerk immediately hunted up the police officers, giving them the information, and they repaired at once to the drug store in question. Upon meeting the druggist the inquiry was made, "Is Mr. — here in your store?" "No," was the reply; "I requested Mr. — and Mr. — to take him to the hotel, and they have done so." Upon the officers inquiring at the hotel, they learned that the manager had not appeared. The officers thereupon interviewed the two men referred to, who replied, "We know nothing about the affair," and accompanied the officers in their search for the man in question. While the officers were on this wild-goose chase, the manager was removed from the back room and laid upon a snow bank upon the side hill at the rear of the store, the man who assisted telling his wife, on reaching home, what they had done. His wife, who immediately realized the situation, replied to her husband, "Why, that man will be frozen to death before morning. If you don't report this case to the police officers, I will." Thereupon her husband told the facts to the officers, who, on arriving at the place where the manager had been left, found that he had disappeared, but traces in the snow plainly indicated that he had been dragged to a building in process of construction, with no doors or windows, and deposited upon the floor, where he was found unconscious, with life nearly extinct. He was taken to the hotel, a physician was summoned, and it took the remainder of the night to restore him to consciousness, and two weeks elapsed before he was able to leave town.

This case was thoroughly investigated, and a formal complaint was made to the Board by their agent, together with the record of the druggist in question, which is as follows: His first appearance in court was on Nov. 9, 1886, charged with the illegal keeping and exposing for sale of intoxicating liquors. He pleaded guilty, and paid a fine of fifty dollars.

On Nov. 15, 1895, he appeared before the court charged with assault and battery, pleaded guilty, and paid a fine of forty dollars. On Nov. 22, 1895, he appeared before the court charged with keeping and maintaining a common liquor nuisance, pleaded guilty, and paid a fine of one hundred dollars. On Feb. 25, 1896, he appeared before the court charged a second time with keeping and maintaining a common liquor nuisance, and received a sentence of four months' imprisonment and a fine of one hundred and twenty-five dollars. After his discharge from prison, on June 26, 1896, he was summoned to appear before the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, to show cause why his certificate of registration in pharmacy should not be suspended or revoked altogether; and after hearing all the facts, the Board revoked the same altogether, thereby relieving the community of another drug store in name but in reality a rum shop in disguise.

Another so-called druggist, by the name of —, lived in the city of —. He was formerly a man of good address and appearance and had many friends, but of late years he had become a victim of intemperance, and for days at a time was intoxicated at his place of business. Next he took to gambling, and finally his drug store became a liquor nuisance. Complaints came to the Board, as you well know, setting forth that this man was intoxicated at his store, and the question was asked, "Cannot the Board revoke his certificate of registration? He is incapable of dealing in poisonous medicines in his present condition." But the Board had to reply to the complainants, "There is no law whereby the Board of Pharmacy can suspend or revoke a certificate of registration in pharmacy for drunkenness." And so the matter went on. One day the deputy chief of police of this city, in company with your agent, visited this store, only to find the druggist in question intoxicated to such an extent that he assaulted the officer, and it became necessary to arrest him. After his release from custody the place was raided several times, conviction followed, and finally he was convicted in the superior court and sentenced to three months in the county jail and a fine of one hundred dollars. Formal complaint was made to the Board, as the records show; and on May 11, 1896, his sentence having expired, he was summoned to appear before the Board of Registration in Pharmacy, to

show cause why his certificate of registration in pharmacy should not be suspended or revoked. He appeared before the Board, represented by able counsel, and pleaded guilty to the several charges; but the counsel asked a continuance of the case for sixty days, to see if the defendant would not be able to conquer his cravings for strong drink. He could not, however, resist the temptation, and returned to his habits of intemperance. Therefore, at the expiration of the sixty days, the Board revoked his certificate altogether.

Recapitulation.

Number of visits to cities and towns,	327
Number of drug stores inspected,	1,733
Number of criminal complaints made to local authorities,	33
Number of druggists prosecuted and convicted,	29
Amount of fines imposed,	\$2,850
Number committed to prison,	8
Number of months served,	28
Number of complaints made to the Board and investigated,	170
Number of formal complaints made to the Board,	22
Number of drug stores closed,	60
Number of drug stores found doing business without any registered person connected with the same,	12

During the year just closed, visits have been made to nearly every drug store in the State, and with few exceptions I have had the pleasure of meeting the proprietors, thereby becoming better acquainted with them; and for their assistance and courteous treatment I herewith extend my gratitude.

To the officers of the law who have assisted the Board in the enforcement of the pharmacy laws, with many of whom I am personally acquainted, I desire to extend my thanks and kind appreciation of their services.

In conclusion, I wish to testify to the honest efforts put forth by the Board of Pharmacy to correct the abuses, and the endeavors made by them to elevate the business of pharmacy throughout the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,

SIMON B. HARRIS.